

HAGGAI 2 vs 1

Prophet Haggai, whose name means: **my feast**; was the first prophetic voice to be heard after Judah was exiled in Babylon. A contemporary of Zechariah, he lived in Jerusalem around 520bc. This is the second building of the temple, after Solomon's temple was destroyed. The urgency and beauty of this building included the glory of the Lord; Messiah would come to it; instructing His people the first time; as He paid a price we could not pay. The future third temple, the prophets Isaiah and Zechariah tell us will be constructed under the careful watch of the Branch of Jesse who will put up a **TENT**. Ezekiel's massive temple is wrongly assigned to a future event, **Judah** never imagined what God could imagine had they all returned with joyfulness and gladness of heart, to build up Jerusalem. Instead a mere 10% of the Jewish people returned; the rest remained contented citizens of Babylon for nearly 2500 years until the return to Zion took place, as Jewish Zionism began to rise in England in the 1800s.



Haggai calls the people to consider their ways in neglecting to build the house of God, leaving us in the 21st century to ask ourselves how are we helping to build up the house of God?

¹ On the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai, saying,

² Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of **Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying,**

³ Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Does it not seem to you like nothing in comparison?

⁴ Yet now take courage, Zerubbabel, declares the LORD; and take courage, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and all you people of the land take courage, declares the LORD, **and work: for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts.**

⁵ According to the promise that I made with you **when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you: do not fear.**

⁶ For thus says the LORD of hosts;

Yet once more, in a little while,

and I will shake the heavens, and the **earth, the sea also, and the dry land;**

⁷ and I will shake all the nations,

and the desire of all nations will come: and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts / Paul wrote: we all fall short of the glory of God; John told us: they heard, they saw, they touched the glory of God; if the choice is between translating this **wealth** or **Jesus**, then we say: the blessed Messiah sent by God wins; He is our great desire; someday, He will come in power and great glory; He alone will fill that place with the glory of His Father, who is our Father, too.

⁸ The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, says the LORD of hosts.

⁹ The glory of this latter house will be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts: and in this place I will give peace, says the LORD of hosts / and why will it be greater? Because the Prince of Peace will come and reign in power and glory; which makes me want to shout: **Hallelujah!**

¹⁰ On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month / Chisleu, Nov-Dec; so it was winter, **in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Haggai the prophet, saying,**

¹¹ Thus says the LORD of hosts; Ask now the priests for a ruling, saying:

¹² If one carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and touches bread with his fold, or cooked food, wine, oil, or any other food, will it become holy? And the priests answered and said, No / right answer.

¹³ Then Haggai said, If one who is unclean from a dead body touches any of these, will it become unclean? And the priests answered and said, It will be unclean / another right answer.

¹⁴ Then Haggai answered and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before Me, declares the LORD; and so is every work of their hands; even what they offer there is unclean.

¹⁵ But now, please, do consider from this day onward, before one stone was placed on another in the temple of the LORD:

¹⁶ Since the time when someone came to a grain heap of 20 measures, it amounted to 10: when someone came to the wine press to draw out 50 measures from the vat, it only amounted to 20.

¹⁷ I struck you, and all the work of your hands – with blight, and mildew and hail; yet you did not turn to Me, says the LORD.

¹⁸ Consider carefully from this day forward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, from the day that the foundation of the temple of the LORD was laid, consider it.

¹⁹ Is there still seed in the barn? even the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree, have not yet produced. But from this day on I will bless you.

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²⁰ Again the word of the LORD came a second time to Haggai on the twenty-fourth day of the month, saying,

²¹ Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, **I am going to shake the heavens and the earth;**

²² And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and destroy the power of the kingdoms of the nations; and I will overthrow the chariots and their riders; and the horses and their riders will go down, each one by the sword of another.

²³ On that day, declares the LORD of hosts, I will take you, Zerubbabel, My servant, the son of Shealtiel, declares the LORD, and make you like My signet ring: for I have chosen you, declares the LORD of hosts.



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